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The Plan of CAMPAIGN

In the Interest of Workingmen

By the REV. CHARLES STELZLE

Representing the PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

In order that the mission and the methods of the Home Board's representative in its work in the interest of workingmen may be definitely understood, the following statement has been prepared, especially for the benefit of those in whose cities work along these lines is to be attempted.

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1. INQUIRY BLANK

Every pastor in the city will receive from our office a blank sheet, which contains questions as to the conditions in his church, his community, and his city. It is not intended that all of these questions shall in every case be answered, but it will help very much if the information asked for is furnished, even though no work is to be attempted in his particular church. The answers are in every case considered confidential.

2. EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS

While the mission is not primarily evangelistic, some time is given to this phase of work in every city visited.

The evangelistic meetings are not, as a rule, held in the churches, but in the large shops at the noon hour, near the churches which desire to interest workingmen. These meetings are intended especially for working people who have become alienated from the church.

Evangelistic meetings may be held in the church on Sunday night, and in a hall or at the Y. M. C. A. on Sunday afternoon, provided that an effort is made to attract workingmen to these meetings.

3. CONFERENCES

There is wide interest in the Industrial Problem as it has to do with the church. That this interest may be productive of the most good, conferences with the ministers of the city or of the Presbytery should be planned for,

and a meeting with the labor leaders or of the labor unions should be arranged. Definite plans for the latter may be left until the Board's representative reaches the city. It would be well to find out when the Central Labor Union holds its regular meetings, giving this information at once to Mr. Stelzle.

4. FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Arrangements have been made whereby a fraternal delegate from the local minister's association meets regularly with the Central Labor Union, having all the privileges of the organization without assuming any of its obligations. It has been thought well in some cities to have a representative from the Central Labor Union meet with the ministers in the same capacity. The result of this has been that there is a more cordial relationship between the workingmen and the church; first, because the minister has a better understanding of what the labor movement stands for, and second, because the labor leader has come to know something of the mission of the church.

This arrangement will be perfected in the cities visited, if the plan proves to be feasible in the cities desiring it.

5. CONSECRATION OF CHRISTIAN WORKINGMEN

Realizing that if workingmen are to be reached for Christ, the work must be done very largely by Christian workingmen, it is a part of the plan of campaign to commit to a definite service for workingmen the men who are already in our churches. The Board of Home Missions hopes to use these volunteers as its agents for the distribution of such literature for workingmen as may be issued from time to time, and to equip them for a larger service among their fellows. It is planned

to keep in touch with these workers after the campaign in the city has been completed.

6. A CAMPAIGN OF EDUCATION

It is hoped that a more general interest in these problems may be given by the churches, and especially by the young men and women in our educational institutions. To this end special addresses on various phases of the work are delivered in our larger churches, to the students in our theological seminaries, and other organizations. An illustrated address on "The Workingman and Social Problems," with practical applications, is given when desired. The lantern must be provided by the church or the organization desiring the lecture.

7. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Not only are methods of work discussed in the conferences, and with the workers in our churches, but when opportunity offers, the work is organized so that a particular church may become more effective in meeting the problems of the community by which it is surrounded. Practical suggestions are given, especially to the young men in the mission fields of the city, who desire to bring their churches to greater efficiency.

8. LITERATURE

In addition to the literature already issued by the Board on this subject, it is planned to print leaflets for both the church and the workingmen, discussing the questions which deal with various phases of the workingman problem, as it has to do with the church. This literature will be used in the campaigns inaugurated in the cities, and it will be furnisheed free of charge, not only for these occasions, but for distribution at any other time.